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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Japan-South Africa joint communiqué entitled "Japan-South Africa partnership in the new century", which was issued after the meeting between Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, and Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan, in Tokyo on 2 October 2001 (see annex).

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We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 24, 27, 48, 49, 58, 97, 98, 114 and 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yukio **Satoh**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Dumisani Shadrack **Kumalo**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 13 December 2001 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Japan-South Africa joint communiqué entitled "Japan-South Africa partnership in the new century"

(Tokyo, 2 October 2001)

1. Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki, President of South Africa, and his wife, Zanele Mbeki, accompanied by several ministers including Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs; B. Ngubane, Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology; A. Erwin, Minister of Trade and Industry; V. Moosa, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism; A. T. Didiza, Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs; and M. E. Tshabalala-Msimang, Minister of Health, paid a State visit to Japan from 1 to 3 October 2001, at the invitation of the Government of Japan. During the course of the visit they had an audience with the Emperor and Empress at the Imperial Palace on 1 October.

2. On 1 October, President Mbeki met Junichiro Koizumi, Prime Minister of Japan, and a wide range of views on bilateral relations, African regional issues, and multilateral issues were exchanged. President Mbeki renewed an invitation to the Emperor and Empress to visit South Africa. President Mbeki also extended an invitation to Prime Minister Koizumi to visit South Africa. Prime Minister Koizumi reaffirmed Japan's policy statement on Africa, made by then Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori during his visit to South Africa in January 2001, which emphasized the importance of support for development, conflict resolution and refugee aid. He reiterated that "there will be no stability and prosperity in the world in the twenty-first century unless the problems of Africa are resolved" and that "the problem of Africa is one of the most important issues for our global foreign policy".

3. During the course of their discussions, both sides acknowledged each other as important partners in the pursuit of a common world order based on peace, democracy, justice and equality, and that the already comprehensive political and economic relationship existing between the two countries needed to be further deepened, strengthened and diversified.

4. President Mbeki and Prime Minister Koizumi strongly condemned the terrorist attacks of 11 September in the United States of America, which were a grave challenge to freedom, peace and democracy, and could never be forgotten. They expressed their condolences to the families and friends of all those who lost their lives. Both countries emphasized that the international community needed to stand firmly together against terrorism and also confirmed that they were ready to take every possible measure for this purpose.

5. Both countries confirmed their common views on many of the issues facing the international community in the twenty-first century and expressed their determination to strengthen the cooperative relationship between North and South towards the achievement of international peace and prosperity. Japan commended South Africa's leadership as the Chair of various international forums including the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Commonwealth, and its contributions to such international conferences as the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

6. The two countries decided to intensify cooperation towards the successful conclusion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg in 2002. The two countries will also strengthen their cooperation on various global environmental issues, including global warming and freshwater resources, while taking note of the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held from October to November 2001, and the Third World Water Forum, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, in March 2003.

7. Both countries confirmed their intention to cooperate and play an active role in order to launch a new round of multilateral trade negotiations at the

Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Doha, Qatar, in November 2001, with a sufficiently broad agenda, including the strengthening and improvement of World Trade Organization rules and other issues, while responding to the legitimate concerns of the developing countries.

8. Both countries acknowledged the importance of the role of the United Nations in world peace, stability, and prosperity and confirmed their position of working together for the early realization of United Nations reforms, starting with the reform of the United Nations Security Council, including the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent membership. In this regard, President Mbeki reiterated South Africa's support for a permanent seat for Japan in a reformed Security Council. Likewise, Japan expressed its support for developing countries' representation, including African representation in a reformed Security Council.

9. Both countries acknowledged the dialogue between the leaders of the G-8 and the developing countries, initiated by Japan during the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in July 2000 and continued at the Genoa Summit in July 2001, as a typical example of successful cooperation between North and South. Japan attached importance to cooperation with South Africa in the area of information technology and expressed its willingness to facilitate cooperation for information technology dissemination throughout Africa. Japan also emphasized its active implementation of a US$ 3 billion programme over five years under the "Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative", also for African countries which are most seriously affected by infectious diseases. At the same time, Japan repeated its intention to contribute US$ 200 million to the Global AIDS and Health Fund, which is highly appreciated by the international community. South Africa welcomed the policy visits by the Japanese information technology and infectious diseases task teams to various African countries in this regard earlier in the year.

10. Both countries reaffirmed their conviction that African development should recognize the principles of Africa's "ownership of solutions" and "partnership with the international community". They welcomed the fact that the "Millennium Africa Recovery Program/ New African Initiative" (MAP/NAI), adopted by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit meeting in July 2001, emphasized the principles of democracy, good governance and sustainable development. Japan expressed its intention to actively support this initiative through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) process, in cooperation with other G-8 countries. Japan proposed that the MAP/NAI should be one of the central themes to be discussed at the TICAD Ministerial-level Meeting to be held in Tokyo in December 2001. South Africa expressed its appreciation of Japan's leading role in calling the attention of the international community to African issues through the TICAD and G-8 summit processes and both countries expressed their trust that the international community would heed the call to contribute towards the development of Africa.

11. Both countries welcomed the establishment of the Japan-South Africa Business Forum for their business organizations and its first meeting to be held on 3 October 2001, which serve as an example of the growing dialogue between the two countries. They also welcomed the high-quality investments of Japan in the Southern Africa region in recent years, with the accompanying transfer of technology and employment creation. Japan expressed its commitment to encouraging private investment in African countries, including Southern Africa. South Africa, on its side, acknowledged the importance of efforts to improve its own investment environment. They looked forward to increasing trade, investment and economic joint ventures between the two economies.

12. Furthermore, Japan also welcomed the substantial progress made with respect to the reform of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the transformation of OAU into the African Union. Japan committed itself to supporting the strengthening of these organizations.

13. The two countries welcomed the efforts initiated by African leaders to prevent and resolve conflict and acknowledged, inter alia, the progress made towards the launching of an inter-Congolese dialogue, considered as crucial for the resolution of conflict and national reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the progress of national reconciliation in Burundi, and the progress towards the resolution of the land question in Zimbabwe.

14. Japan expressed its appreciation of South Africa's endeavours towards nation-building within the spirit of national reconciliation, and expressed its intention to implement measures to support South Africa's efforts

in promoting economic and social reforms aimed at the alleviation of poverty and the eradication of social inequality.

15. President Mbeki and Prime Minister Koizumi reaffirmed the content of the Japan-South Africa joint communiqué on a "Partnership between Japan and South Africa towards the Twenty-first Century", issued on 9 April 1998. They also welcomed the fact that, based on this communiqué, the relationship between the two countries has been steadily re-enforced and reiterated their determination to make continuous efforts to establish a balanced cooperative relationship in various fields. Both countries confirmed that the "Japan-South Africa Partnership Forum", which has convened four times so far, has re-enforced their relationship in a variety of areas and confirmed the utility of this forum in promoting the implementation of concrete proposals in a wide range of fields in the future. Within this framework, the two countries decided to consult regularly at the senior officials level on global issues such as United Nations reform, the environment, disarmament and non-proliferation, food safety and human security, as well as on problems facing Africa such as conflict and refugees.

16. Welcoming progress on bilateral cooperation in the area of science and technology, both Governments decided to start negotiations with a view to concluding an agreement on science and technology cooperation. They also shared the view that the conclusion of the first-ever agreement on science and technology cooperation, based on the principle of equality between, and mutual benefit to, Japan and an African country, would be of great significance.

17. In the area of agricultural and rural development, South Africa acknowledged the continued assistance and opportunities for capacity-training facilitated through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and both countries reiterated the importance of ongoing cooperation in these sectors.

18. Both countries emphasized the importance of tourism and of cultural and sporting exchanges in support of the bilateral relationship and recognized the necessity of cultivating mutual understanding and friendship at all levels. Both countries took note of the increase in tourism from Japan to South Africa, and they confirmed their intention, in particular, to promote the exchange of youth within the framework of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) programme and the dispatch of Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) to South Africa.